



# Department of Justice

United States Attorney Leura G. Canary  
Middle District of Alabama

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## **VALLEY, ALABAMA MAN SENTENCED TO NINE YEARS IMPRISONMENT FOR POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

**MONTGOMERY, Ala.**— Roger Keith Garner, age 30, of Valley, Alabama was sentenced to nine years imprisonment today for possession of child pornography by United States District Court Judge W. Keith Watkins, U.S. Attorney Leura G. Canary announced.

In imposing his sentence, Judge Watkins gave Garner sentencing enhancements for, among other things, the number of images possessed (almost 90 images), the type of images possessed (portraying sadistic or masochistic conduct), and because Garner had engaged in a pattern of activity involving the sexual abuse or exploitation of a minor. When released from prison Garner will be put under the supervision of the Court for the rest of his life and must register as a convicted sex offender.

Garner is also facing charges at the state level for, among other things, attempted sodomy of a 3-year-old girl. The state case, which is being prosecuted by District Attorney E. Paul Jones, has been continued pending resolution of the federal charges. Attempted sodomy is a class B felony punishable by a sentence of 2 to 20 years.

U.S. Attorney Canary stated, "The nation is facing an internet-driven epidemic of child pornography. The proliferation of child pornography is dangerous for many reasons, among them the relationship between the possession of child pornography and molestation of children. Mr. Garner's case is another example of the Middle District's implementation of Project Safe Childhood. Our office is working hand in hand with federal, state and local law enforcement and prosecutors to bring to justice all offenders who pose a threat to children."

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In May 2006, the Department of Justice launched Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit [www.projectsafechildhood.gov](http://www.projectsafechildhood.gov).

This case was investigated by the Detective Tony Ward, formerly of the Valley Police Department, with the cooperation of Detective Matt Young of the Lanett Police Department.

The federal case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Christopher A. Snyder.